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ABSTRACT

Education professionals are recognizing that the multiple and complex problems of children with emotional and behavioral difficulties and their families exceed the capacity of any single service system. The 13 articles in this edited collection present educators and social service practitioners with innovative programs and practices for such children and their families. The emphasis here is on inter-service collaboration. Special consideration is given to the unique issues and problems experienced in schools. The articles show school administrators, teachers, and child service providers the conceptual, practical, and research aspects of integrated, in-school service programs. Some of the topics explored here include: systems of care for children and families; schools as health delivery sites; parent involvement for students with emotional and behavioral disorders; program planning and evaluation; and planned organizational change. A section on innovative school-based approaches to service integration provides models of successful programs and also outlines ways to design supportive school environments. The programs presented here focus on the development of more broad-based community services, less restrictive child placement, prevention of hospitalization, interagency collaboration, flexible and individualized services, and cost containment. (RJM)

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